ACT No. 725

HOUSE BILL NO. 556

BY REPRESENTATIVES ARNOLD AND PONTI

| 1 | AN ACT |
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| 2 | To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2156.1(F) and to enact R.S. 37:2150.1(14) and (15) and |
| 3 | 2156.1(M), relative to the licensing of electrical and mechanical contractors; to |
| 4 | provide for definitions; to provide for preemption of certain contractors; to provide |
| 5 | for waiver of examination under certain circumstances; and to provide for related |
| 6 | matters. |
| 7 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: |
| 8 | Section 1. R.S. 37:2156.1(F) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. |
| 9 | 37:2150.1(14) and (15) and 2156.1(M) are hereby enacted to read as follows: |
| 10 | §2150.1. Definitions |
| 11 | As used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall be defined as |
| 12 | follows: |
| 13 | * * * |
| 14 | (14) "Electrical contractor" means any person who undertakes to, attempts |
| 15 | to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise, superintend, oversee, |
| 16 | direct, or in any manner assume charge of the construction, alteration, repair, |
| 17 | improvement, movement, demolition, putting up, tearing down, or furnishing labor |
| 18 | together with material and equipment, or installing the same for the wiring, fixtures, |
| 19 | or appliances for the supply of electricity to any residential, commercial, or other |
| 20 | project, when the cost of the undertaking exceeds the sum of ten thousand dollars. |
| 21 | This Paragraph shall not be deemed or construed to limit the authority of a |
| 22 | contractor, general contractor, or residential building contractor, as those terms are |
| 23 | defined in this Section, nor to require such individuals to become an electrical |
| 24 | contractor. |

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(15) "Mechanical contractor" means any person who undertakes to, attempts to, or submits a price or bid or offers to construct, supervise, superintend, oversee, direct, or in any manner assume charge of the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, movement, demolition, putting up, tearing down, or furnishing labor, or furnishing labor together with material and equipment, or installing the same for the construction, installation, maintenance, testing, and repair of air conditioning, refrigeration, heating systems, and plumbing for all residential, commercial, and industrial applications as well as ventilation systems, mechanical work controls, boilers and other pressure vessels, steam and hot water systems and piping, gas piping and fuel storage, and chilled water and condensing water systems and piping, including but not limited to any type of industrial process piping and related valves, fittings, and components, when the cost of the undertaking exceeds the sum of ten thousand dollars. This Paragraph shall not be deemed or construed to limit the authority of a contractor, general contractor, or residential building contractor, as those terms are defined in this Section, nor to require such individuals to become a mechanical contractor.

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§2156.1. Requirements for issuance of a license

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F. Upon completion of the above, and issuance of a state license for the classification of work for which the contractor desires to perform and contract, mechanical, plumbing, or electrical contractors licensed under this Section are excluded from local and municipal local, municipal, or parish regulatory authority examination procedures and may bid and perform work within any local jurisdiction upon paying all appropriate fees. The purpose of this Subsection is preemption of local and municipal local, municipal, or parish regulatory examination authority for state licensed statewide-licensed mechanical, plumbing, or electrical contractors bidding and performing work in multiple jurisdictions. Furthermore, this preemption shall further exclude the employees of statewide-licensed electrical and mechanical contractors from local, municipal, or parish regulatory examination or certification

authority as a condition to performing work for the statewide-licensed electrical or 1 2 mechanical contractor. 3 4 M. The board shall waive the examination required and grant a mechanical 5 contractor or an electrical contractor license to any person working in the electrical 6 or mechanical construction industry who meets at least one of the following 7 requirements: 8 (1) Holds either a mechanical or an electrical contractor's license which was 9 issued prior to July 1, 2008, by a local municipality after having passed an 10 examination administered or written by a national testing company approved by the 11 board. 12 (2) Submits five original building permits, issued within the last three years, 13 as proof that he has actually been engaged in either the mechanical or electrical construction building industry prior to July 1, 2008. 14 15 (3) Has completed six mechanical or electrical construction projects within 16 the ten-year period prior to July 1, 2008, or has constructed one such project for 17 another person within the five-year period prior to July 1, 2008. 18 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2009. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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APPROVED: ____